GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
FINANCE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4313
ANSWERED ON:19.04.2002
CUSTOMS DUTY EXEMPTION ON DRUGS
VIRENDRA KUMAR

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have exempted some drugs from customs duty;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) to what extent the exemption duty will have impact on the reduction of prices of those drugs?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI GINGEE N.RAMACHANDRAN)

(a) Yes Sir.

(b) Eight life saving drugs, namely Basiliximab, BeractantIntra-tracheal Suspension, Imatinib Mesilate, Rivastigmine,Rituximab, Tetrofosmin, Trastuzumab and Zoledronic Acid, for treatment of cancer and other critical diseases, have been exempted from customs duty with effect from . 1st March, 2002.

(c) It is not feasible to indicate the price impact, as prices depend upon a variety of factors.